

# East End Local Community Planning Partnership

## MINUTE OF MEETING

HELD ON  
**24th November 2022**  
Douglas Community Centre

### **Present:**

Jacqui Kopel (Locality Leader) - DCC Customer Services and IT

Alan Gunn - DCC Communities Officer

Baillie Christina Roberts - DCC

Councillor- Dorothy McHugh - DCC

Baillie Will Dawson - DCC

Ginny McLanders- Brooksbank Centre

Fay Lamont- Brooksbank Centre

Fraser Bain - DCC Community Empowerment Team

Jennifer King- DCC Children and Families

Nick Toner- Douglas Community Spaces Group

Carole Jenkins- Douglas Community Spaces Group

Fiona Reekie- DCC Housing

Art Sangster- Douglas Local Management Group

Joyce McIntosh- Mid Lin Day Care

Alison Macaulay- DCC East Youth Team

Jim Campbell- East Community Regeneration Forum

Emma Gordon- DVVA

Taylor Burness- DCC Housing

Jennifer Hanson- Douglas Food Cupboard

Hazel Imrie - Douglas Food Cupboard

Claire Shepherd- DCC Community Empowerment Team

## **Apologies:**

Garvie Jamieson (East Community Regeneration Forum), Chris Bonnar (Scottish Fire Service), Sandy Boyd (DCC Environment), Tina Ross (Rowantree Primary), Karen Clark (Craigiebarnes Primary), Feebee McMulckin (The Hub Larder and Freecycle)

### **1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Jacqui introduced herself as the new Locality Leader for the East End Community Planning Partnership and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted as above.

### **2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (26/08/22)**

Minutes agreed.

Outstanding actions- Jacqui to liaise with Sandy Boyd (Environment Department) in relation to the ground adjacent to Douglas Community Centre and the fallen tree in the Douglas area.

### **3. COMMUNITY PLAN 2022-27 & WORKING GROUPS**

Alan Gunn shared a powerpoint presentation (please see attachment)

Alan shared hard copies of the Local Community Plan which will be launched in December. The local community priorities which will partnership will work to address are-

- Responding to the cost of living crisis
- Increasing local opportunities to be involved in learning, social and physical activities which promote wellbeing
- Improving life chances for children and families
- Improving quality of green and open space that people can access in their own communities
- Increasing local support for people experiencing poor mental health or who are affected by substance or alcohol use
- Increasing opportunities for East End residents to be involved in decisions which affect their community
- Developing a partnership approach to addressing issues of community safety in the East End

Alan advised that over the course of five year life span of plan, the community priorities can change and it is important that it is flexible and able to respond to changing circumstances.

Alan outlined the community plan sub groups that are taking these community priorities forward as being-

- The Cost of Living Subgroup
- The Linlathen Fairness Initiative
- Dundee East Community Safety Partnership
- The Wellbeing and Recovery Subgroup
- The East End Third Sector Network

Alan advised that the Green and Open Spaces subgroup has yet to be formed but there will be a meeting in January where local community groups, community members and services will be invited to explore ways to take this forward.

Baillie's Dawson and Roberts mentioned that there had previously been an audit of green spaces done a number of year ago. Alan agreed to follow up with Environment dept.

Baillie Roberts also mentioned that We are With you have now received additional additional funding and may in a position to get back involved supporting the recovery work.

#### **4. EAST END LOCAL COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP FORMAT**

Alan will distribute a pro forma in advance of the February LCPP allowing for partners to provide written updates.

The logic for this is that it will allow for more of a focused discussion around local priorities rather than service updates. These will be collated and sent out ahead of the LCPP meeting.

This is not meant to be too labour intensive but a good way of measuring the progress of the partnership against the priorities in the community plan.

Baillie Dawson advised that it would be helpful to have representation from Police Scotland and DCC City Development at the partnership going forward.

#### **5. EAST END COST OF LIVING WORKING GROUP**

Alan gave some background to the East End Open Doors initiative which began on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November and is a partnership response to supporting the local community in the midst of the cost of living crisis.

- Ginny gave an update on the open doors work at Brooksbank:

They have re-configured their services to offer free food on a Monday and Wednesday funded through CRF.

They have served 300 meals over 6 sessions so far. A lot of families have been attending.

The hall is used for free craft activities, they have had 57 people attend this.

They have been able to refer people from open doors to their money advice service.

People attending have reported feeling less socially isolated, particularly elderly residents.

Money advice drop-in continues to run on a Tuesday and is linking in with the pathfinder drop-in which Brooksbank host on a Tuesday.

The challenges they have experienced is sustaining costs in relation to staff, food resources and increased energy use.

Ginny feels a gap in the area is activities for children.

- Art gave an update on the Douglas Community Centre local management group's involvement in the open doors initiative.

They are actively promoting the centre as an open space during the day Monday to Friday and have had people coming for the free teas and coffees and to read the papers. They are offering meals for £1 on a Thursday evening and the numbers attending doubled over the first few weeks.

Art also noted that some people who have been attending the food larder are now attending the LMG café.

- Joyce advised that the community café at Mid-Lin Day Care is going well and numbers are increasing. Local residents have been attending that would not normally use the facility.

They now have two minibus drivers and have been able to support people wishing to attend the Café with transport.

- Hazel and Jennifer updated on the Douglas Food Cupboard

This is the 5<sup>th</sup> week open and have given out 306 food bags so far.

An average of 61 per week but expect this to increase on the run up to Christmas

They have 143 people registered with, with 121 members coming from the East End Ward.

They currently have a benefits advice worker from the Brooksbank attending but hope to get use of another room to host other support agencies such as Welfare rights/Social security Scotland.

They have just started a Christmas appeal for donations of toys/presents to give out during December

About to start collecting cosy clothes/coats again to give out during the cupboard session

Will be giving our regulars a hamper on our last session before Christmas on 21<sup>st</sup> Dec. Open again on 4<sup>th</sup> January so we are only closed for 1 week.

Baillie Roberts and Fiona asked about the collection point for the cosy coats. Alan advised that the initial collection point is Douglas Sports Centre.

Jacqui advised that Faith in the Community are looking at a co-ordinated approach to distribution.

- Claire advised that the Hub Food Larder and Freecycle continues to be busy on both the food and the freecycle side. Claire advised that the demand for clothes and other goods through the freecycle has significantly increased and they are re-stocking clothing rails 4-5 times per day.

Councillor McHugh asked about the Freecycle process, Claire advised that they recycle clothes or goods that are donated by displaying them in the library entrance or selling them for a small charge to supplement the purchasing of food for the food larder.

Ginny highlighted the importance of continued strategic planning around the cost of living work.

Councillor Dawson advised that Leisure and Culture are keen to play a role in this. Alan mentioned the Douglas Sports Centre sessions on a Saturday. Councillor Dawson also advised that the hour long closure of libraries at lunch time is being looked at.

Ginny mentioned some gaps in Youth Provision.

Alison advised that they now have over 80 young people attending the Craigie Drop-In on a Friday Evening and 40 young people attending youth provision at Rowantree over two nights.

## **6. LINLATHEN NARRATIVE INQUIRY**

Fraser updated on the progress of the narrative inquiry which is a social research project conducted by the Community Empowerment Team co-ordinated through professor Karen McArdle (Dundee University) and Media Education.

The research has included a photograph exhibition, 1-1 interviews, a film making project and quantitative questionnaires.

A report will be produced into the beginning of next year which will help inform the actions that will take place in Linlathen.

The key themes emerging so far are cost of living, housing, employability, youth activity and green spaces and community values.

## **7. OTHER SERVICE OR GROUP UPDATES**

### **Housing**

Fiona advised that she would send the link for the consultation around the review of the housing allocations policy.

A proposal around work at Happyhillock Walk will be sent out for consultation.

Fiona advised that there are delays with the capital programme in relation to cavity wall insulation.

Fiona also advised the Taylor Burness is the tenancy assistant for Douglas and Sylvia Mustard is the tenancy assistant for Mid Craigie and Linlathen.

### **Children and Families**

Jennifer King advised of the new "Together to Thrive" partnership which has been developed with Child and Adolescent mental Health Service which will look at supporting the families of children who are on the waiting list for a CAMHS service.

Jennifer and Alan agreed to meet out with the meeting to discuss in more detail.

Jennifer Hanson advised that Penumbra Mental Health support service are starting a group in Douglas Community Centre in January.

Councillor McHugh asked about support for older people in the community and shared experiences from an initiative which took place at the Friary.

Transport for older people accessing opportunities was raised as an issue and Alan encouraged people to publicise the Rocksolid Community bus as much as possible as this can be used to support anyone to activities or facilities across the East End. Contact number for booking the bus is 01382 732322.

### **Douglas Community Spaces**

Nick continues to monitor the park on a regular basis. Issues and concerns are e-mailed to Environment on a weekly basis.

After a couple of weeks of significant vandalism and anti-social behaviour in the park and the surrounding properties, working with Police Scotland and CS Wardens, Nick has produced a community safety leaflet which will be distributed by partners to local people.

We had a very positive meeting with the Street Lighting Partnership to look at options for appropriate lighting in the park. Options and quotes will be developed and hopefully be available in January so

the group can work on a funding application.

There is ongoing partnership work with local schools, DVVA, environmental and gardening groups. Nick is working on the next newsletter which is due to go out in March next year. Partner organisations can email information to him if they wish to be included.

Significant ongoing work looking at governance, financial and legal governance. An audit of other open spaces in Douglas will be carried out in the New Year.

DCSG still waiting for more information about when the MUGA will be installed. Funding has been secured. The MUGA would help address some of the anti-social issues as it would provide a resource for older young people.

### **DCC Youth Work**

Alison updated that 214 young people are currently attending evening provision in the East End.

Food is now provided at evening provision.

They are working in partnership with Fairfield to deliver a new Thursday evening session.

They secured funding to deliver 110 new winter coats to young people.

They are facilitating Santa's grotto at Douglas Community Centre and at the Hub.

They have trips planned to the pantomime at Whitehall theatre and will be taking 170 young people.

### **East End Community Regeneration Forum**

Jim advised that the forum have been keen to support cost of living initiatives over recent months such as the East End Open Doors programme.

There is still a significant amount of physical and environmental funding left that the forum are keen to be used.

### **Mid-Lin Day Care**

Joyce advised that they are still looking to progress with an asset transfer request to build a new Daycare facility which will also have some community access.

They are having a Christmas Light Night on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December with signing from the dementia choir.

## **8. AOCB**

There were no points raised.

## **9. Date of Next Meeting**

Date and venue of next meeting to be confirmed.